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Expanded VC Force Intensifies RVN War

It is perfectly clear the Viet Cong intend to expand their force and intensify the conflict in the Republic of Vietnam, according to U.S. officials.

They said the most notable factor regarding this conclusion is the continuing increase in VC strength through high level infiltration.

Last November Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara said the infiltration rate was around 4,500 monthly.

The officials say it is undoubtedly higher now, explaining that it takes three-to-six months to estimate the rate with any degree of accuracy.

The United States is far better prepared in mobility, firepower and absolute combat strength than it was during the past monsoon season, the officials said.

Only two U.S. maneuver battalions were in the RVN then, compared to 43 U.S. and 10 third country ones there March 24, 1966.

70 Recommendations Filed For Army Officer Education

The Haines Board has submitted more than 70 recommendations for Army officers' education and training through 1975 to meet requirements of a progressive Army.

Members under board president Lt. Gen. Ralph E. Haines Jr., conducted a seven-month comprehensive study of the whole spectrum of Army officer training and education.

Their conclusions and recommendations are being staffed within Army for possible approval. The report is also being distributed to other services for information purposes.

Proposals include establishment of formal officer specialist programs in comptroller, systems analysis, and automatic data processing.

Other recommendations deal with modifying career school missions and objectives; collocating some school and training activities; greater use of extension or correspondence courses; and the use of electives at various career course levels.

ARMY HONORS NAVY — Lt. Cdr. Ernest I. Lissy, USN (center), receives the Army Commendation Medal for his service to the U.S. Army Satellite Communications (SATCOM) Agency, Ft. Monmouth, N.J. Col. Mitchel Goldenthal, USA (left), Agency commander, congratulates Lt. Cdr. Lissy as Col. James B. Bryant, USAF, head of the Defense Communications Agency field office looks on.

Special Terminals Shown For Military Comm. System

Mark 1B ground-link terminals for the world's first global satellite communications network have been exhibited by the U.S. Army and Hughes Aircraft Co. at Fullerton, Calif.

The new terminals are the first specifically designed for military communications. They are scheduled for service when the network's first satellites are launched later this year.

Capable of transmitting and receiving four voice and four teletype messages at the same time, the terminals can also send and receive facsimile traffic (photographs).

Tests of the terminals will be conducted in various locations of the world, under integrating direction of the Defense Communications Agency according to Col. Mitchel Goldenthal, commander of the Army's Satellite Communications (SATCOM) Agency.

Mark 1B terminals are designed to be transported by land, sea or air. They can be assembled by the station crew at a suitable site and put into full operation in 48-hours.

Washington Memos

A LOW-LEVEL penetration flight of 1,045 nautical miles was made March 25 by a USAF F-111A variable-sweep-wing fighter from Edwards AFB, Calif., to General Dynamics plant, Forth Worth, Tex. Lt. Col. R. C. W. Blessley Jr., USAF, flew the three-hour non-stop mission at an even 1,000 feet above uneven terrain that varied from 500 to more than 10,000 feet altitude.

U.S. ARMY'S 1ST Logistical Command observed its first anniversary April 1 with some 26,000 troops involved in the enormous business of military supply across five-sixths of Vietnam. Command had only 35 members one year ago.

REDEYE, ARMY'S SHOULDER-FIRED anti-aircraft missile system, has completed Arctic phase of service testing at Ft. Greely, Alaska. Results of the tests show that both soldiers and Redeye equipment can operate successfully in an Arctic environment. Now in production, Redeye development has been funded jointly by Army and Marine Corps.

DOD HAS REQUESTED the Selective Service System to provide Armed Forces Induction Stations with 34,600 men in May for assignment to the Army. May call is being made to coincide with the planned expansion of military strengths for Vietnam after allowance for estimated losses, enlistments, reenlistments and available training capacity.

INCREASED ASSISTANCE TO the RVN Red Cross has been announced by Gen. James F. Collins, American Red Cross President. The aid—primarily money and material to provide expanded services to South Vietnamese people in health fields—followed recommendations of Raymond T. Schaeffer, veteran ARC technical advisor who recently returned from visit to RVN.

HAINES BOARD FINDINGS are intended to guide Army's officer education and training system from commissioning until retirement. This includes service schools, service colleges and civilian educational, commercial and industrial institutions.

PROPOSED CHANGES ARE recommended to give Army officers the progressive education and training required to operate in the current and projected world and Defense environment. The board considered rapid technological advances of recent years and military requirements for all levels of conflict in its deliberations.

AIR FORCE BOARD is scheduled to convene May 16 at Randolph AFB, Tex., to select and recommend officers for permanent promotion to lieutenant colonel in Regular Air Force.

PRAISE FOR SOLDIERS and units in the RVN has been expressed by Army Secretary Stanley R. Resor. He said the high quality of professionalism seen there should be a source of pride to all of us. It shows not only the innate toughness and determination of young Americans, he said, but also the soundness of the training the Army provides.

NASA WILL HOLD a two-day conference on Vertical or Short Takeoff and Landing (V/STOL) aircraft at Ames Research Center, Mountain View, Calif., April 4-5. Some 500 engineers and scientists from industry, government and universities are to attend. Discussions and papers will report on proposed short-haul commercial transport systems and advanced versions of V/STOL helicopters, propeller and jet aircraft.

THE EIGHTH QUADRIPARTITE Engineer Conference will be held at Ft. Belvoir, Va., April 6-16. Maj. Gen. Frederick J. Clarke, CG, U.S. Army Engineer Center and Ft. Belvoir, will host the conference. More than 50 officials of the Army, Marine Corps and representatives from Great Britain, Canada and Australia will attend.

ARMY'S STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS Command (STRATCOM) will provide personnel to man and operate Mark 1B ground terminals. During research and development, Army's Satellite Communications Agency will have a special test direction team at each site in addition to the normal STRATCOM crew. Once the test phase is completed, Army, Navy and Air Force operational communications elements will take over.

COMBINED EFFORTS OF Army, Navy and Air Force in the Initial Defense Communications Satellite Program are being coordinated and integrated by the Defense Communications Agency. Air Force is responsible for developing and launching the satellite; the Army for developing and operating the ground terminals and conducting the ground communications complex test program, and Navy for developing and operating shipboard terminals.

AT START OF 1966, more than 486 million individual Savings Bonds were being held by Americans, 93 percent of which were in denominations ranging from $25 to $200.

FIRST U.S. COUNSUL to be stationed in Bechuanaland, South Africa, is Charles H. Pletcher, 43. Since July 1964, U.S. interests in Bechuanaland have been handled by U.S. Consul Richard St. F. Post who has been resident in Mbabane, Swaziland and responsible for U.S. interests in all three former UK High Commission Territories of Bechuanaland, Basutoland and Swaziland.

JAMES WADSWORTH SYMINGTON, 38, was sworn in March 22 as Chief of Protocol, Department of State, succeeding Lloyd Nelson Hand who resigned.

COMMANDERS DIGEST

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Background For Commanders

U.S. Aim in RVN is to Bring a Just Peace

Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara raised 10 basic questions concerning U.S. policy in South Vietnam and Southeast Asia when he appeared March 3 before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Then he answered his own questions. Two of his questions and answers appear here, and two more will be published next week.

How long will the war last, and what reason do we have to believe that we can win?

We must bear in mind that victory for us and for South Vietnam is a limited objective. We do not seek to destroy North Vietnam, or even to maintain a base in South Vietnam. We win if North Vietnam leaves South Vietnam alone.

As for how long the war will last, I would very much like to provide a specific response. But no answer framed in terms of years or months can have validity because so much will depend on North Vietnam's estimate of our own determination and of the determination of the people of South Vietnam to sustain the integrated military, political and economic programs that are essential for success. Should the leaders of North Vietnam conclude for reasons of which we are unaware that they wish to end the conflict, they could act promptly—almost overnight. But Hanoi may well persevere in its plan to take over South Vietnam by force. Then the people of South Vietnam and their armed forces, together with our own troops and those of other Free World allies, will have no alternative but to continue the effort in South Vietnam to destroy the main force units of the North Vietnamese Army and of the Viet Cong, and to protect the villages and hamlets from terror, sabotage and guerrilla attack.

We believe that we can win in the sense I indicated. First, we have every basis for believing that the people and the leadership of South Vietnam want and intend to persevere in their own defense: They believe —as we do—in the justice of their defense against aggression from the North. Second, assisted by the United States and other Free World allies, the South Vietnamese forces have the will and the capability to defeat the efforts of Hanoi and the Viet Cong. Our existing and planned American military and economic strength, both within South Vietnam and elsewhere, is clearly sufficient to achieve the objectives I have described.

Why are we not using our full air and sea power to bomb the Hanoi regime into submission?

The answer, in its most forthright and simplest form, is that such use of our air and sea power would be at odds with the underlying objectives of our military commitment to defend South Vietnam against aggression.

Our military actions in South Vietnam are designed to defeat the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese forces in their attempt to subvert and take over by force the people and the government of South Vietnam. We strive, in short, to afford the people of South Vietnam the fullest opportunity to shape their own political destiny and to choose freely the type of society in which they wish to live. We do not seek the destruction or the overthrow of the Hanoi regime; we seek no territory from North Vietnam, nor indeed any bases in or military alliance with South Vietnam once peace is restored.

Our military efforts are therefore directed primarily to actions within South Vietnam, with the air effort against North Vietnam fashioned as appropriate to assist in achieving our objectives in the South. That air effort in the North is—as it should be—mainly an effort to interdict the lines of communication and military traffic. Anything beyond that, short of destruction of the North Vietnamese nation, is not likely to make a significant military difference so long as Hanoi believes that in South Vietnam the war can be won.

Bombing aimed at the destruction of the North Vietnamese nation would carry with it very significant risks of enlarging the war in Southeast Asia. We believe we can achieve our limited objective without incurring such risks.

Noted Md. Journalist's Death Brings Comment from SecDef

The March 25 death of Mark S. Watson, military correspondent of the Baltimore Sun, brought the following statement from Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara:

"All of us throughout the Department of Defense, from the Pentagon to Vietnam, are saddened . . . by the death of Mark Watson, one of the great figures of military journalism. A newsman of the finest professional standards, he searched courageously and tirelessly for the story, in peace and on the battlefield."

The 79-year-old journalist, winner of the Pulitzer Prize and the Presidential Medal of Freedom, was also cited by Assistant Secretary of Defense Arthur Sylvester.

FAA, AF Develop Radar Device for Joint Usage

An electronic device that will allow joint use of military radar information for air traffic control and air defense at a considerable cost saving has been developed by Federal Aviation Agency and Air Force Systems Command's Electronics Systems Division.

Known as "Common Digitizer," the analog-digital processor was designed to meet combined data processing and transmission requirements of both Continental Air Defense Control and Warning System and the proposed semi-automatic FAA National Airspace System for Air Traffic Control.

Device automatically detects, correlates and transfers aircraft target information from long-range surveillance radars and beacon radar systems. Signals are converted to digital message formats and fed to FAA National Airspace System and Air Force Continental Air Defense and Warning System.

Nationwide Seminars Begin April 19 on Cost Information

Department of Defense, cooperating with the National Security Industrial Assoc., Aerospace Industries Assoc. and Electronics Industries Assoc., is sponsoring a series of orientation seminars on Cost Information Reports in cities across the country, beginning in Washington April 19.

BARON AND BIRD DOG — Capt. Henry S. Lang Jr., USAF, who gained fame in Vietnam as a forward controller known as "The Baron," bids farewell to an 0-1 Bird Dog spotter plane at Pleiku.

Army War College to End GWU Graduate Program

The U.S. Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, Pa., has announced that George Washington University's graduate study program for War College students will be discontinued Aug. 31, 1966, after graduation of the current class.

Under the program, initiated in 1960, students attending the War College have been able to take additional graduate courses leading to masters' degrees in international affairs while pursuing their military studies.

Increased requirements for research and study due to expansion of the War College's curriculum resulted in the decision to terminate the program.

Navy Underwater Range To be Ready in 1967

Pacific Missile Range's newest facility, the Barking Sands Tactical Underwater Range, Barking Sands, Kauai, Hawaii, is scheduled to be operational by 1967.

The range consists of a 50-square-mile area 15 miles off the western coast of Kauai, instrumented with hydrophones connected to data processing and communications equipment ashore.

Navy will spend more than $20 million on the range, including a remote radar site on Makaha Ridge, an operations control center, a power plant, and marine cable terminal buildings.

Range will provide timed tracks of all fleet air, surface and underwater units operating in anti-submarine exercises conducted there.

Airborne Camera System To Aid Space Plotting

A new Air Force Systems Command airborne camera system can determine the position in space of equipment re-entering the atmosphere with unprecedented accuracy.

Called the Airborne Astrographic Camera System, it will assist in the development of advanced re-entry systems to increase ballistic missile accuracy and target penetration capabilities.

PERSONNEL ACTIONS

Brig. Gen. Stephen W. Downey Jr., USA, former Asst. 2nd Armored Division Commander for Maneuver Elements, departed Ft. Hood, Tex., March 23 for duty as Director of Doctrine, U.S. Army Combat Developments Command, Ft. Belvoir, Va. **Maj. Gen. Wood B. Kyle, USMC,** assumed command of 3rdMarDiv, Da Nang, RVN, March 18. **Capt. Don A. Jones, USC&GS,** named Associate Director, Office of Hydrography and Oceanography. **RAdm. Henry L. Miller, USN,** assumed duties as CHINFO. **Brig. Gen. Leland G. Cagwin, USA,** Deputy CG, Combat Developments Experimentation Command, Ft. Ord, Calif., to become CG, Army Test and Evaluation Command, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.

CONTRACT AWARDS

Montgomery Pipe and Tube Co., Dania, Fla.: $4, 725,275 contract for 439,152 coils of concertina wire. **(DSA)**

Hoel-Steffen Construction Co., Afton, Mo.: $1,279,-922 fixed-price contract for construction work at the Lake City Army Ammunition Plant, Independence, Mo. **(Army)**

Tracor Inc., Austin, Tex.: $1,802,944 contract for engineering and technical services in connection with Navy sonar systems. **(Navy)**

AVCO Corp., Stratford, Conn.: $3,483,131 fixed-price contract for production of T-53 helicopter engines for Navy and Air Force. **(Air Force)**